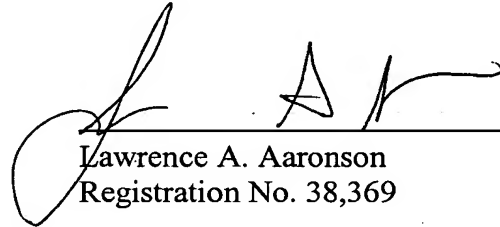


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the present amendment, claims 1-16 have been canceled. Claim 17 remains the sole remaining claim. Claim 17 corresponds to non-elected Group II of parent application number 09/524,200.

Date: October 1, 2003



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